

State Rep. Melanie George Smith visits Buena Vista to celebrate accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums

(DOVER, Del.—Feb. 28, 2018)—State Rep. [Melanie George Smith](#) recently visited the [Buena Vista](#) conference/event center, located at 661 S. Dupont Highway (Route 13), southwest of New Castle, to celebrate the [accreditation](#) of the museum system of the State of Delaware by the American Alliance of Museums, the highest recognition afforded to museums in the United States. Administered by the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the system includes [five state museums](#), over 40 [historic properties](#) and the state's archaeological and historic-objects [collections](#).



State Rep. Melanie George Smith visits the Buena Vista conference/event center in celebration of the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums. From left: Patricia Gerken, Buena Vista site supervisor; Smith; and Desiree May, site manager

Developed and sustained by museum professionals for over 45 years, the alliance's [accreditation program](#) is the field's primary vehicle for quality assurance, self-regulation and public accountability. It strengthens the museum profession by promoting practices that enable leaders to make informed decisions, allocate resources wisely and remain financially and ethically accountable in order to provide the best possible service to the public.



One of Delaware's most historic homes, the main section of Buena Vista was built between 1845 and 1847 by John M. Clayton, United States secretary of state from 1849 to 1850 under presidents Taylor and Fillmore, and United States senator from 1829 to 1836, 1845 to 1849, and 1853 until his death in 1856. The home later became the residence of C. Douglass Buck, governor of Delaware from 1929 to 1937 and United States senator from 1942 to 1948. Buena Vista and its grounds were donated to the state by the Buck family in 1965 and now serve as a conference/event center administered by the

Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.



Buena Vista

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Contact:

Jim Yurasek

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Phone: 302-739-7787

E-mail: Jim.Yurasek@delaware.gov

Web: <http://history.delaware.gov>